

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 10, wherein a part of at least one of the plurality of reels is inserted into the cutout or the recess.

4. - 7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 further comprising a processor that is operable with the liquid crystal display device to:
perform an internal lottery of a game with a random number at a predetermined timing;
stop at least one of the symbols of the variable display device based on the result of the internal lottery carried out by the internal lottery means; and
pay out a game medium to a player in a case where a stop state of the variable display device corresponds to a predetermined stop state.

9. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 8 further comprising an operation unit that allows the player to input operation for stopping at least one of the symbols of the variable display device,
wherein the processor stops the symbols based on the internal lottery and on the operation input through the operation unit.

10. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine comprising:
an illumination unit that emits light;
a liquid crystal display device that includes a liquid crystal panel, and a light guiding plate disposed at a rear of the liquid crystal panel for guiding light emitted from the illumination unit to the liquid crystal panel; and

a variable display device that is disposed at a rear of the liquid crystal display device and includes a plurality of reels provided in a row each on which a plurality of symbols are arranged; and

a reflection film provided between the light guiding plate and the plurality of reels,

wherein a part of the light guiding plate to which each of the reels is opposed is formed with a cutout or a recess on the side opposed to the reel,

wherein an end face of the cutout or the recess corresponding to the inside dimensions of the cutout or the recess is configured for and subjected to scatter a light scattering process, and

wherein the light guiding plate illuminates the reels with light scattered out from the cutout or the recess,

wherein the light guiding plate has a back surface side and a front surface side and has a light deflection pattern formed on the back surface side for guiding light emitted from the illumination unit towards the liquid crystal panel, and

wherein the reflection film reflects the light emitted from the light guiding plate towards the front surface side.